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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/611,741	07/01/2003	Adnan M.M. Mjalli	41305.287124	2564

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EXAMINER

BADIO, BARBARA P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1616

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/611,741

Applicant(s)

MJALLI ET AL.

Examiner

Barbara P. Badio, Ph.D.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,11-15,29,30,32,33 and 44-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,11-15,29,30,32,33 and 44-51 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-2 and 11-15, drawn to compounds and compositions, classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
 - II. Claims 29-30, drawn to a method for the inhibition of the interaction of RAGE with its physiological ligands, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.
 - III. Claims 32-33(in part), drawn to a method for treating inflammation utilizing the compounds of formula I, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.
 - IV. Claims 32-33(in part), drawn to a method of treating vascular permeability utilizing the compounds of formula I, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.
 - V. Claims 32-33(in part), drawn to a method of treating nephropathy utilizing the compounds of formula I, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.
 - VI. Claims 32-33(in part), drawn to a method of treating atherosclerosis utilizing the compounds of formula I, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.
 - VII. Claims 32-33(in part), drawn to a method for treating retinopathy utilizing the compounds of formula I, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.

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- VIII. Claims 32-33(in part), drawn to a method for treating Alzheimer utilizing the compounds of formula I, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.
- IX. Claims 32-33(in part), drawn to a method for treating erectile dysfunction utilizing the compounds of formula I, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.
- X. Claims 32-33(in part), drawn to a method for treating tumor utilizing the compounds of formula I, classified in class 514, subclass 610+.
- XI. Claim 44, drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula II, classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
- XII. Claim 45, drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula III, classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
- XIII. Claim 46, drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula IV, classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
- XIV. Claim 47, drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula V, classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
- XV. Claim 48, drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula V, classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
- XVI. Claim 49, drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula VI, classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
- XVII. Claim 50(in part), drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula VII comprising reacting according to (a), classified in class 564, subclass 123+.

- XVIII. Claim 50(in part), drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula VII comprising reacting according to (b), classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
- XIX. Claim 50(in part), drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula VII comprising reacting according to (c), classified in class 564, subclass 123+.
- XX. Claim 51, drawn to a process for preparing compounds of formula VIII, classified in class 564, subclass 123+.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions I and II-X are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product and the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (see Inventions II-X).

3. Inventions I and XI-XX are unrelated. Inventions XI-XX are drawn to processes of making compounds that differ in scope from those encompassed by Invention I.

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4. Inventions II-X (XI-XX) are unrelated. The different inventions are drawn to different processes of using (Inventions II-X) or making (Inventions XI-XX) the instantly claimed product.

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Groups II-XX, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

6. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species from within the elected Group for search purposes, even though this requirement is traversed.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

9. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

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10. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

11. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not

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commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.**

Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

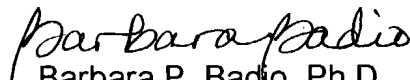
Telephone Inquiry

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barbara P. Badio, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 571-272-0609. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 6:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thurman K. Page can be reached on 571-272-0602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Barbara P. Badio, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1616

BB
March 22, 2004